



9110-04-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[Docket No. USCG-2015-0296]

Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Lake Washington Ship Canal at Seattle, WA

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of deviation from drawbridge regulation.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard has issued a temporary deviation from the operating schedule that governs the University Bridge, mile 4.3, across Lake Washington Ship Canal at Seattle, WA. The deviation is necessary to accommodate the "Beat the Bridge" foot race event. This deviation allows the bridges to remain in the closed-to-navigation position to allow for the safe movement of event participants.

DATES: This deviation is effective from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on May 17, 2015.

ADDRESSES: The docket for this deviation, [USCG-2015-0296] is available at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Type the docket number in the "SEARCH" box and click "SEARCH." Click on Open

Docket Folder on the line associated with this deviation. You may also visit the Docket Management Facility in Room W12-140 on the ground floor of the Department of Transportation West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this temporary deviation, call or e-mail Mr. Steven Fischer, Bridge Administrator, Thirteenth Coast Guard District; telephone 206-220-7282, e-mail d13-pf-d13bridges@uscg.mil. If you have questions on viewing the docket, call Cheryl Collins, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202-366-9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Seattle Department of Transportation has requested a temporary deviation from the operating schedule for the University Bridge, mile 4.3, across the Lake Washington Ship Canal at Seattle, WA, to facilitate safe passage of participants in the "Beat the Bridge" foot race. The University Bridge, mile 4.3, provides a vertical clearance of 30 feet in the closed position; clearances are referenced to the mean water elevation of Lake Washington. The current operating schedule for the bridge is set out in 33 CFR 117.1051. The normal operating schedule for the University Bridge states that the bridge need not open from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. and from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, except

Federal holidays but Columbus Day for vessels less than 1000 tons. The normal operating schedule for the bridge also requires one hour advance notification for bridge openings between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. Waterway usage on the Lake Washington Ship Canal ranges from commercial tug and barge to small pleasure craft.

Vessels able to pass through the bridge in the closed positions may do so at any time. The bridge will be able to open for emergencies and there is no immediate alternate route for vessels to pass. The Coast Guard will also inform the users of the waterways through our Local and Broadcast Notices to Mariners of the change in operating schedule for the bridge so that vessels can arrange their transits to minimize any impact caused by the temporary deviation.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(e), the drawbridge must return to its regular operating schedule immediately at the end of the designated time period. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35.

Dated: April 14, 2015

Steven M. Fischer
Bridge Administrator
Thirteenth Coast Guard District

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